

**September 24, 2003**

**MCA-MDT Technical Committee Meeting**

The meeting began at 8:00 a.m.

Bob Kober opened the meeting to new MDT business. After the new business from MDT, both sides went through the remaining old business. MCA was then given the opportunity to offer their new business.

**MDT NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Final Inspection and Acceptance.** MDT informed MCA that the proposed supplemental specifications dealing with Final Inspection and Acceptance were distributed for comment shortly before the meeting on Wednesday. MCA will review the proposed language and offer its comments.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Certified Traffic Control Supervisor.** MDT stated that progress is just beginning to move along. This item will be dropped until MDT has further updates.
2. **Median Barrier Rail Connections.** MDT informed MCA that the Detailed Drawings for Median Barrier Rail Connections would be ready for the December letting. This item will be dropped from the agenda.
3. **Claims Specification.** MCA stated that it had received numerous comments dealing with the Claims Specification. Bob Kober arranged to meet with MDT to help arrive at a common ground with this specification.
4. **Electronic Bidding.** MDT is moving along w/ Bid Express. MDT is currently working on a questionnaire required to implement Bid Express. Once feedback is gathered through the questionnaire, MDT is planning on inviting Info Tech for training. MDT will be working on getting the EBS files on the Internet. There will be more updates in future meetings.
5. **Erosion Control.** MCA felt that there are still cases where EPMs are reluctant to allow contractors to change erosion control or BMPs. MCA is trying to bid units in the blind because they are not seeing the plans for erosion control until after the contract has been rewarded. MDT replied by saying that all the plans will soon be available on the Internet for the contractor's use. MCA felt Straw Waddles are more effective than Silt Fence. MCA would also like to see the rate schedule adjusted to support this. MDT feels that paying more for BMP's like this is a good idea and more attractive visually. MCA inquired about the erosion control violations that MDT was receiving earlier in the year from DEQ. MDT stated that, so far, they have just received notices of violation rather than enforcement actions.
6. **Construction Memos.** MDT informed MCA that the all memos are presently posted on the website. This item will be dropped from the agenda.
7. **Grade 5A and 6A Gravel.** MDT is currently waiting for approval from FHWA to move ahead with the implementation of the specifications dealing with the 5A and 6A gravel. MCA asked that MDT review the incentive bands. MDT will look into MCA's concerns and will welcome comments from MCA.
8. **Adjustments.** MDT informed MCA that there are still some bugs in the software being used. MDT will look at providing copies of estimates sooner so contractors know about possible adjustments sooner.

**MCA NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Handicapped Ramps on Sidewalks.** MCA asked about the Standard Detailed Drawing for Handicapped Ramps on Sidewalks having a note stating that the actual ramp has to be visually contrasting. MCA informed MDT that currently there is no consistency between districts as to what is visually contrasting. MCA would like to see some consistency in this area. MDT informed MCA that ADA guidelines call for truncated domes. MDT will look into this and should have more updates after winter.

**2. Video Conferencing.** MCA inquired about the possibility of having the videoconference for the Pre Con. Meeting and other meetings in all the districts. MCA feels this would greatly reduce travel by the contractors. MDT feels this is a reasonable request and will look into this. MDT will give an update next meeting.

The next meeting will be **November 12, 2003**, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the **MCA Office**.

cc:	Darrin Grenfell, FHWA	Bob Kober
	Joel Marshik	Suzy Althof
	James Walther	Carl Peil
	Mark Wissinger	Scott Barnes
	Matt Strizich	Kent Barnes
	MCA- Attn, Dee Dee Johnson	District Construction Engineers